

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006 – 0800 MDT
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was moderate nationally with 141 new fires reported. Two large fires were contained, one each in the Southern and Southwest Areas. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENTS/LARGE FIRES:

WEST TEXAS IA, Texas Forest Service. A Texas State Type 2 Team (Rogers) is assigned in Midland, TX. The Team is assisting local jurisdictions with managing initial and extended attack fires within the 140 million acre fire management response area. One new fire was reported within the management area. Acres, structure losses and costs represent cumulative fire activity for the response area.

CORBETT TRAIL, Florida Division of Forestry. This fire is four miles south of Indiantown, FL in grass. The fire is being monitored.

GARCON-EASTER, Florida Division of Forestry. This fire is five miles south of Bagdad, FL in grass. Minimal fire behavior was reported.

FL SPORTS PARK, Florida Division of Forestry. This fire is near Naples, FL in southern rough. The fire is being monitored.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
WEST TEXAS IA	TX	TXS	4,897	NR	UNK	233	0	25	6	0	13.7M	TX
CORBETT TRAIL	FL	FLS	1,000	65	4/28	0	0	0	0	0	1.2K	ST
GARCON-EASTER	FL	FLS	506	95	UNK	16	0	1	0	0	11.4K	PRI
FL SPORTS PARK	FL	FLS	846	95	UNK	16	0	1	1	0	6K	ST
THE PULL TRACK	FL	FLS	610	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	450	ST

SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENTS/LARGE FIRES:

SAND, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. This fire is 30 miles south of Winslow, AZ in grass and understory. No further information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
SAND	AZ	ASF	1,268	85	4/27	145	5	6	2	0	619K	ST
GORDON	NM	N4S	196	100	---	40	0	18	0	0	2K	ST

N4S – New Mexico State Forestry, Las Vegas District.

EASTERN AREA INCIDENTS/LARGE FIRES:

FIREWEED, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This fire is three miles southwest of Fourtown, MN in grass and leaf litter. No new information was reported. This will be the last report unless new information is received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
FIREWEED	MN	MNS	416	99	UNK	5	0	0	1	0	6.4K	ST

OUTLOOK:

Red Flag Warnings: In effect for Northern Florida for afternoon humidity near 35%.

Fire Weather Watches: Southeastern Arizona, southern into south-central New Mexico for strong winds and low humidity.

Weather Discussion: An upper level low pressure system will move across southern California and into the Southwest today. Strong winds in combination with dry conditions will exist out ahead of this system for portions of mainly southeastern Arizona, New Mexico, and west Texas. Further north, another storm system will create windy and dry conditions for the Northern Rockies into the northern Plains. Elsewhere, much of the central and eastern portion of the country will remain dry under a large high pressure system.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
Southern Area Central and south Florida: Partly cloudy with thunderstorms.	Near 90.	Mid to upper 40%s.	Southwest/west to 18 mph.
Southwest Area Partly cloudy with widely scattered showers and storms western and northern Arizona. Partly cloudy elsewhere with scattered showers and storms eastern New Mexico. Dry and windy southeastern Arizona into south-central New Mexico.	Low 70s to mid 80s lower elevations and 50s to around 70 higher elevations.	10 to 20% eastern Arizona into the western half of New Mexico, 20 to 30% western half of Arizona, and 25 to 45% eastern New Mexico into west Texas.	South to southwest wind 10 to 20 mph much of Arizona. South winds 15 to 30 mph and gusty far southeastern Arizona into southern and central New Mexico. South to southeast winds 10 to 20 mph and gusty eastern half of New Mexico into west Texas.
Eastern Area Mainly dry across the Eastern Area.	50 to 60 across the northern and eastern New England states. 70 to 80 over the southern and western tier of the Eastern Area. 60 to 70 elsewhere.	18 to 28% across the Great Lakes. 24 to 34% over the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States. 30 to 40% across elsewhere.	West to southwest at 8 to 16 mph over the southwestern 1/2 of Minnesota, Iowa, and western Wisconsin. East to southeast at 8 to 16 mph over NE Minnesota, the northern 1/3 of Wisconsin and Michigan. 8 to 16 mph over the Northeast down into Mid-Atlantic states. Light wind speeds elsewhere.
Rocky Mountain Area Showers likely and scattered afternoon thunderstorms across southern portions. Scattered afternoon showers and isolated thunderstorms in northern and eastern portions.	Lower 70s in southern and eastern portions, with 60s in northern portions.	20 to 30% lower elevations, with higher values in the mountains and far eastern plains.	South 15 to 20 mph in Kansas, otherwise northerly 10 to 15 mph elsewhere.
Southern California Area Scattered showers Southern California. A slight chance of afternoon showers high Sierra and Inyo.	50 to 65 mountains. 60 to 75 valleys. 70 to 78 upper deserts. 80s lower deserts.	40 to 60%.	Southwest to northwest 10 to 20 mph with higher gusts.



http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php

HELICOPTER PERFORMANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS

Certain helicopter missions push the limits of the aircraft's performance capabilities. Items that reduce the effectiveness and increase the risk of the mission include weight, temperature, altitude, and visibility.

Helicopter missions that transport external loads increase risk.

Helicopters reach their maximum performance capabilities as temperature and/or altitude increase.

All helicopters have different maximum performance capabilities, so be aware of the capabilities of the specific helicopter that you are working with.

Low-level helicopter operations often occur in heavy smoke where hazards (e.g., trees, snags, antennas, visibility, turbulence, and other aircraft) increase the risk level significantly.

Determine the risk level for every mission. Is the risk level acceptable? Can the risk be mitigated? If the risk is not acceptable or it cannot be mitigated, then the mission should not be flown.

A large part of the success of a helicopter mission is the result of good communications between the pilot and the user on the ground.

Accurate target and hazard descriptions are essential to a safe mission. Locate this information and relay it to the pilot. Things to consider in the target description include:

- Have you considered what the target would look like from the air?
- Are you located where the pilot can see you?
- Do you have a signal mirror?
- Are you using cardinal directions or clock directions in relation to the track of the aircraft?
- What is the wind direction? Provide this information to the pilot.
- Are all firefighters clear of the drop area?
- Is there a safer way to carry out an effective suppression action?

FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						0	0
Northern Rockies	FIRES					5		5
	ACRES					2		2
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					300		300
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	4				2	1	7
	ACRES	1				2	0	3
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES	14		1		64	7	86
	ACRES	220		2		99	24	345
Southern Area	FIRES					40		40
	ACRES					301		301
TOTAL	FIRES	18	0	1	0	112	10	141
	ACRES	221	0	2	0	704	25	952

FIRES AND ACRES YEAR TO DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						1	1
Northwest	FIRES	10		2			5	19
	ACRES	6		3			6	16
Northern California	FIRES				1	72	10	83
	ACRES				0	1,555	1,244	2,799
Southern California	FIRES		4				26	30
	ACRES		10				11,095	11,105
Northern Rockies	FIRES	110	2	7	1	32	6	158
	ACRES	510	101	945	223	3,610	254	5,643
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	9	3			8		20
	ACRES	156	12			685		853
Western Great Basin	FIRES		13		1		1	15
	ACRES		19		1		0	20
Southwest	FIRES	249	57	1	38	520	195	1,060
	ACRES	1,673	2,049	431	3,496	236,700	13,721	258,070
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	55	8	23	3	234	38	361
	ACRES	823	3	1,374	0	126,522	7,533	136,255
Eastern Area	FIRES	382		31	33	6,745	346	7,537
	ACRES	5,693		827	215	53,921	6,558	67,214
Southern Area	FIRES	379		130	16	24,054	659	25,238
	ACRES	42,868		13,142	3,373	1,661,950	32,976	1,754,309
TOTAL	FIRES	1,194	87	194	93	31,674	1,283	34,525
	ACRES	51,729	2,194	16,722	7,308	2,084,950	73,382	2,236,285

Five Year Average Fires	51,773
Five Year Average Acres	547,645

*** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. ***

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	2	0	30			12	44
	ACRES	47	637	3,687			303	4,674
Northern California	FIRES						4,233	4,233
	ACRES						0	0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES			5			15	20
	ACRES			598			1,449	2,047
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1					1	2
	ACRES	150					110	260
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES		1				0	1
	ACRES		400				1,298	1,698
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		2		0		2	4
	ACRES		472		10		732	1,214
Eastern Area	FIRES	3		18		49	3	73
	ACRES	290		2,550		2,464	171	5,475
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	6	3	53	0	49	4,266	4,377
	ACRES	487	1,509	6,835	10	2,464	4,063	15,368

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR TO DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	13	92	46			43	194
	ACRES	2,103	3,777	5,887			795	12,562
Northern California	FIRES	12	3	3	3		4,281	4,302
	ACRES	101	222	13,672	14		716	14,725
Southern California	FIRES		5	2			50	57
	ACRES		285	24			1,673	1,982
Northern Rockies	FIRES		10	25	1	3	48	87
	ACRES		1,411	5,768	128	706	4,931	12,944
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	3	9	6		1	13	32
	ACRES	1,246	1,770	1,548		2	3,777	8,343
Western Great Basin	FIRES		2	1				3
	ACRES		15	10				25
Southwest	FIRES	23	7	2	1		70	103
	ACRES	3,682	2,202	320	87		36,429	42,720
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	22	17	57	12	25	81	214
	ACRES	2,033	5,716	13,310	8,957	1,462	22,975	54,453
Eastern Area	FIRES	29		324	31	846	130	1,360
	ACRES	14,499		39,805	4,907	40,625	26,038	125,874
Southern Area	FIRES	20		148	35	205	683	1,091
	ACRES	4,739		67,245	8,917	105,374	549,977	736,252
TOTAL	FIRES	122	145	614	83	1,080	5,399	7,443
	ACRES	28,403	15,398	147,589	23,010	148,169	647,311	1,009,880

*** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. ***

WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR TO DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES				4			4
	ACRES				1			1
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	4	0	0	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

*** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. ***

RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska										
Northwest			1			1				
Northern California										
Southern California										
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin			6							
Western Great Basin										
Southwest	3	2	8	20	3		5		7	14
Rocky Mountain		1								
Eastern Area						1	1			
Southern Area			13	14	6	1	3		86	71
Total	3	3	28	34	9	3	9	0	93	85

*** NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER ***